

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PORT A 00897 01 OF 02 170113Z

67

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-07 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 USIA-04 PC-01 PM-03 DODE-00 PRS-01

DRC-01 H-01 AID-10 EB-03 IO-03 COME-00 TRSE-00 AGR-03

/073 W

----- 051744

P 162307Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0000

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 PORT AU PRINCE 0897/1

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, PGOV, PFOR, HA, US

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT DUVALIER DISCUSSES USIS, PEACE CORPS PROGRAMS
IN HAITI

REF: P-AU-P 0334

1. SUMMARY: IN RESPONSE TO MY PRESENTATION ON A NUMBER OF CURRENT TOPICS MAY 15, PRESIDENT DUVALIER EXPRESSED HIS PERSONAL INTEREST IN HELPING BOARD OF HAITIAN-AMERICAN INSTITUTE FIND SUITABLE PIECE OF LAND FOR PROJECTED NEW BINATIONAL CENTER. HE SEEMED AGREEABLE TO HAVING PEACE CORPS REPS SERVE IN HAITI ON AGRICULTURAL PROJECTS AND PROMISED FORMAL GOH RESPONSE TO OUR OUTSTANDING REQUESTS ON THIS MATTER. DUVALIER ALSO EXAMINED SUGGESTIONS I PUT TO HIM, IN RESPONSE TO HIS EARLIER REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE, WITH REGARD TO IMPROVING PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND, SPECIFICALLY, THE CUSTOMS SERVICE. HE EXPRESSED FULL SUPPORT FOR PROPOSED SMALL FARMER IMPROVEMENT (COFFEE) LOAN. HE SEEMED TO BE REASSURED BY PRESENT PROVISIONS OF U.S. SUGAR LEGISLATION RELATIVE TO AN ANNUAL QUOTA OF 15,000 TONS FOR HAITI. END SUMMARY

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PORT A 00897 01 OF 02 170113Z

2. DURING MAY 15 CONVERSATION WITH PRESIDENT DUVALIER,

ARRANGED AT MY REQUEST, I REVIEWED WITH THE PRESIDENT A NUMBER OF SUBJECTS OF CURRENT CONCERN, SEVERAL OF WHICH HE RAISED WITH ME IN EARLIER CONVERSATIONS (REFTEL P-AU-P 0334). AMBASSADOR BOUCHETTE, ON CONSULTATIONS FROM WASHINGTON, ATTENDED, AS DID ACTING AIDREP CRAIG.

3. HAITIAN-AMERICAN INSTITUTE: I REVIEWED WITH THE PRESIDENT THE INSTITUTE'S NEED TO EXPAND FROM ITS PRESENT LEASED QUARTERS INTO A LARGER AND MORE FUNCTIONAL BUILDING SUITABLE FOR THE INTENSIVE ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROGRAMS AND FOR THE MANY OTHER EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES NOW SCHEDULED AND PROJECTED TO BE SCHEDULED OVER COMING YEARS. I EMPHASIZED THAT, GIVEN AN ADEQUATE PHYSICAL PLANT, THE INSTITUTE'S POTENTIAL FOR TRAINING YOUNG HAITIANS IN ENGLISH AND IN THE MANY SKILLS NEEDED FOR NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT WOULD BE ENHANCED. I NOTED THAT A GRANT OF LAND WAS ON CONDITION TO USIA'S PROPOSED FUNDING OF \$50,000 FOR EQUIPMENT AND BUILDING MATERIALS AND POINTED OUT THAT BECAUSE OF BUDGETARY PREPARATIONS NOW UNDER WAY IT WAS IMPORTANT THAT GOH AUTHORITIES MAKE A DECISION ON A LAND GRANT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. PRESIDENT INDICATED NO DOUBTS AS TO IMPORTANCE OF PROJECT AND FOLLOWING DISCUSSION ABOUT SITES IN CENTRAL PORT AU PRINCE ACCESSIBLE TO THE MANY WHO USE THE INSTITUTE AND RELY ON FOOT OR PUBLIC TRANSPORT, HE INSTRUCTED AMBASSADOR BOUCHETTE BEFORE HIS RETURN TO WASHINGTON TO VISIT SEVERAL SITES WITH ME.

4. PEACE CORPS: I REVIEWED THE PAST DISCUSSIONS ON A PEACE CORPS IN HAITI, INCLUDING RECENT EXCHANGE OF NOTES AND SENATOR BROOKE'S FAVORABLE COMMENT ON THE MATTER IN HIS APRIL 17 TALK WITH PRESIDENT. I NOTED THAT NEARLY 100 PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS WERE ENGAGED IN RURAL DEVELOPMENT WORK IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC AND THAT PEACE CORPS MAIN EMPHASIS NOW WAS ON PROVIDING TRAINED TECHNICAL EXPERTS TO WORK IN THE COUNTRYSIDE ON DEVELOPMENT. I NOTED THAT IF GOH AGREED, PEACE CORPS ENVISAGED BEGINNING WITH AN INITIAL PROGRAM OF PERHAPS 8 VOLUNTEERS IN 1974 AND 23 IN 1975, WORKING PRIMARILY IN AREAS OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND NUTRITION IN COLLABORATION WITH APPROPRIATE AUTHORITIES OF THE HAITIAN GOVT. PRESIDENT ASKED SEVERAL QUESTIONS INDICATING CONCERN THAT PEACE CORPS REPS SELECTED WOULD BE MATURE PERSONS AND CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 PORT A 00897 01 OF 02 170113Z

WOULD BE WILLING TO WORK IN AGRICULTURE, INCLUDING ON PILOT FARMS, WHICH HE BELIEVES HOLD GREAT PROMISE. WE GAVE REASSURANCE ON THESE POINTS AND PRESIDENT PROMISED TO PROVIDE FORMAL RESPONSE.

5. PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION: REFERRING TO PRESIDENT'S EARLIER REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE IN THE FIELD OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION I POINTED OUT THAT AID FINANCING FOR PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION IS NORMAL-

LY GIVEN THROUGH INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS SUCH AS THE OAS AND THE UN AND THAT AID COULD NOT REALISTICALLY BE EXPECTED TO FINANCE DIRECTLY A GENERAL PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION PROGRAM. NEVERTHELESS BETTER PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION WAS VITAL FOR IMPROVING ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS IN HAITI AND OBTAINING MAXIMUM BENEFITS FROM THE MANY NEW PROJECTS BEING FINANCED IN HAITI BY INTERNATIONAL DONOR GROUPS. IN REVIEWING HELP ALREADY BEING GIVEN OR BEING PLANNED TO PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION IN HAITI, I NOTED THAT SOME TEN PROJECTS ARE SCHEDULED AND LISTED THESE FOR HIM. I THEN SUGGESTED FOLLOWING THREE AREAS IN WHICH USG MIGHT BE HELPFUL IN THIS FIELD: (A) REQUESTING THAT AID PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION EXPERT SUCH AS MR. ROBERT FELDMAN COME TO HAITI TO DISCUSS THIS PROBLEM WITH APPROPRIATE AUTHORITIES AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS ON FURTHER STEPS; (B) FACILITATE HAITIAN CONTACTS WITH THE INTER-AMERICAN FOUNDATION WHICH HAS EXPRESSED INTEREST IN ASSISTING EXPANSION PROGRAM OF INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED INTERNATIONAL STUDIES AND ADMINISTRATION; AND (C) SEEK THROUGH USIS BUDGETS TO PROGRAM SPEAKERS IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION, ECONOMICS AND RELATED SUBJECTS SO AS TO SUPPORT OPERATIONS OF INSTITUTE. PRESIDENT EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR THIS INFORMATION AND INDICATED AGREEMENT THAT MR. FELDMAN VISIT HAITI FOR PURPOSE SUGGESTED.

6. IMPROVEMENTS IN CUSTOMS SERVICE: INDICATING THAT WE SHARED PRESIDENT'S VIEW ON IMPORTANCE OF REORGANIZING CUSTOMS AS MEANS OF RAISING MORE MONEY TO PAY SHARE DEVELOPMENT COSTS, I POINTED OUT

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PORT A 00897 02 OF 02 170017Z

67

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-07 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 USIA-04 PC-01 PM-03 DODE-00 PRS-01 H-01

AID-10 EB-03 IO-03 COME-00 TRSE-00 AGR-03 DRC-01 /073 W

----- 051048

P 162307Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7956

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 PORT AU PRINCE 0897/2

LIMDIS

THAT IMF REPORT PREPARED IN 1973 BY MESSRS. HUGHES AND GIORGIS PROVIDED SOUND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPROVING CUSTOMS SERVICE, AS DID HACKETT REPORT PREPARED BY U.S. CUSTOMS EXPERT IN 1971. I NOTED OAS WOULD BE PROVIDING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE (TWO EXPERTS ON ONE-YEAR RENEWABLE CONTRACTS) IN THE FIELD OF TAXATION, INCLUDING CUSTOMS, AND WOULD ORGANIZE TRAINING COURSES IN THIS FIELD. I POINTED OUT AREAS WHERE GOH ACTION WOULD BE NECESSARY IN ANY EVENT, INCLUDING: (A) CREATION OF CAREER SERVICE INSULATED FROM FACTORS EXTRANEIOUS TO THE TASK OF COLLECTING CUSTOMS; (B) NUMBERS OF CUSTOMS PERSONNEL; (C) IMPROVEMENTS IN THE PHYSICAL FACILITIES OF THE CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT; (D) IMPLEMENTATION OF IMF RECOMMENDATIONS ALREADY MADE TO GOH. UNDER THEIR CONTRACT TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE IN PORT ADMINISTRATION, FIRM JAMES C. BUCKLEY, INC. INTENDED TO WORK VERY CLOSELY WITH OAS AND IMF ADVISORS. IMF CUSTOMS ADVISOR ANSAY WHILE ON CURRENT TDY IN BRUSSELS WOULD INQUIRE FROM CUSTOMS COOPERATION COUNCIL AS TO POSSIBILITIES OF TRAINING GOH CUSTOMS OFFICIALS AS PART OF THEIR WORLDWIDE PROGRAM TO ASSIST DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IN THIS FIELD. PRESIDENT INDICATED GREAT INTEREST IN THESE OBSERVATIONS AND SEEMED TAKEN ABACK WHEN TOLD THAT AS MANY AS 1000 CUSTOMS OFFICIALS CURRENTLY SALARIED APPEAR TO BE REDUNDANT TO ANY EFFECTIVE OPERATION WHICH NEEDED AT MOST 2-300 TRAINED MEN. HE OBVIOUSLY SAW A PROBLEM IN PLACING THEM ELSEWHERE BUT AGREED THE TASK HAD TO BE FACED AHS DEALT WITH BEFORE NEW PORT PROJECT BECAME OPERATIONAL.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PORT A 00897 02 OF 02 170017Z

7. SMALL FARMER IMPROVEMENT (COFFEE) LOAN: I SHOWED PRESIDENT FOR HIS INFORMATION COPY OF THE DETAILED REPORT PREPARED TO JUSTIFY THE LOAN AND BRIEFLY REVIEWED ITS PROVISIONS WITH HIM. HE SEEMED WELL AWARE OF ITS ESSENTIALS AND SAID FORMAL LETTER OF APPLICATION WOULD BE FORTHCOMING WITHIN NEXT DAY OR SO (LETTER WAS RECEIVED MAY 16).

8. SUGAR QUOTA: PRESIDENT INQUIRED WITH SOME ANXIETY ABOUT STATUS OF HAITIAN QUOTA UNDER DRAFT U.S. SUGAR LEGISLATION AND I GAVE HIM LATEST INFORMATION ON PROVISION THAT HAITI WOULD RECEIVE ANNUAL QUOTA OF 15,000 TONS, BUT WOULD NOT SHARE IN ANY OF THE INCREASES WHICH ARE AVAILABLE IN MOST YEARS AS SOME COUNTRIES FAIL TO MEET THEIR QUOTAS. THE PRESIDENT ASKED WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF HAITI WERE TO EXCEED 15,000 TON QUOTA. I REPLIED THAT EVEN IN THIS EVENT, WHICH SEEMED UNLIKELY IN COMING FIVE-YEAR PERIOD, WORLD MARKET PRICES OF SUGAR WOULD PROBABLY REMAIN ATTRACTIVE.

9. COMMENT: ON EACH OF THESE POINTS I LEFT A TALKING POINT PAPER TRANSLATED IN FRENCH WITH PRESIDENT AND BOUCHETTE. THIS SEEMED A HELPFUL DEVICE IN FOCUSING ATTENTION, AVOIDING MISUNDERSTANDING, AND PROVIDING BASIS FOR FOLLOW-UP ACTION WITHIN GOH. FOREIGN MINISTER BRUTUS, UNFORTUNATELY, WAS NOT PRESENT AT MEETING. PRE-

SIDENT APPEARS TO LOOK ON BOUCHETTE AS A SPECIAL COUNSELOR UPON
WHOM HE RELIES FOR ACROSS-THE-BOARD OR TROUBLE SHOOTING ASSIGNMENTS
OUTSIDE THE NORMAL FOREIGN MINISTRY LINES. THIS IS NOT GOOD
ADMINISTRATION BUT IT HAPPENS TO BE, AT THE MOMENT, THE PRESIDENTIAL
PREFERENCE AND BOUCHETTE MAY BE ABLE TO CUT THROUGH
BUREAUCRACY WHERE OTHERS WOULD FAIL. OTHER CABINET MINISTERS
WILL INEVITABLY RESENT HIS ROLE, AND IT REMAINS TO BE SEEN HOW
SKILLFULLY BOUCHETTE WILL MANEUVER THROUGH THESE POLITICAL
WATERS WHICH, AS REPORTED SEPTEL, APPEAR TO BE MORE THAN
ORDINARILY TROUBLED.
ISHAM

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESIDENT, COFFEE, SUGAR, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, AMBASSADORS, FOREIGN ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS, AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMS, PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION, BINATIONAL CENTERS, IMPORT QUOTAS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 MAY 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974PORTA00897
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740121-0913
From: PORT AU PRINCE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740542/aaaablfd.tel
Line Count: 234
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: P-AU-P 0334
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <04 APR 2002 by cunninfx>; APPROVED <12 JUN 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESIDENT DUVALIER DISCUSSES USIS, PEACE CORPS PROGRAMS IN HAITI
TAGS: EAID, PGOV, PFOR, HA, US, PC, USIS, (DUVALIER, JEAN-CLAUDE)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005